SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am asking the question only.

MR. SPEAKER: Please ask the question without elaborating the background.

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: There are some special people without whom the serials are not approved, nor is extension/revival granted or the number of episodes increased. There is rampant corruption. I would like to know whether it is true that the people who weild influence try to misuse it by putting pressure on Doordarshan to grant extension of serials or in approval of serials? You would recall that the hon. Minister had stated in a reply some time back regarding a film on Dr. Ambedkar, that the Doordarshan had received some proposals for serials on Dr. Ambedkar and it is under active consideration. Today the hon. Minister said that there is no proposal for a serial and instead a film in memory of Dr. Ambedkar is being made. The hon. Minister may categorically state whether there is any proposal of a serial and if there is no such proposal, whether he would approve it, if a serial is sent to the Doordarshan on Dr. Ambedkar?

KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS: The hon. Minister who is my senior collegue has just clarified that according to the new guidelines there are three non-officials and one official for the sereening of any serial. He also clarified that at present there are about 100 members and 13-14 committees are functioning. I am surprised that under these circumstances how the things could leak out. Without any evidence or proof, I do not think it is possible to reply to this query. Secondly, it is almost impossible to believe that such a thing is happening as about 100 people are there in various committees. So far as the film on Dr. Ambedkar is concerned, it is being made in Bombay and about serial, we will let you know after verifying the facts.

[*Translation*]

Foreigners Settling Illegally in India

146. SHRI BAL RAJ PASSI:
SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of foreigners settling illegally in the country is increasing continuously;

(b) the details of arrests made in this regard during the last three years;

(c) the number of such foreigners who have been served orders for their repatriation; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to check such incidents?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) Government is aware of the serious and complex problem of foreign nationals staying on illegally in the country. It is not possible to say precisely whether their numbers are increasing but the possibility is not ruled out.

(b) and (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) Government is constantly reviewing the position and have taken steps from time to time, to tackle the problem of illegal infiltration and overstay. Among the measures already taken include: establishment of additional Border Out posts, Construction of more Observation post Towers, Strengthening of Border patrolling activity, increased stress on detection of infiltrators etc.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BALRAJ PASSI: Sir, I would like to know as to how many Bangladeshi nationals are illegally staying in Delhi? How many of them were expatriated and how many of them have returned back?

[*English*]

SHRI M.M. JACOB: We have asked for information from all the States. But in Delhi, almost one lakh Bangladeshi nationals are staying. That information we have got.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BALRAJ PASSI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know the number of Pakistani national whose visas have expired? What action has been taken to expatriate them from here. How many of these Pakistani nationals have been arrested so far?

[*English*]

SHRI M.M. JACOB: We have got nationals from various countries. Pakistani nationals are also staying here. But, I may not be in a position to say separately as to how many Pakistani nationals are staying. According to the information available, the number of Pakistani nationals who are overstaying is 9561, as on 31.3.1991.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: When Indian nationals with valid visas over-stay in other countries, the authorities in those countries are able to detect these cases and take suitable action for expatriation. Does the Government of India also have any such detection system by which, if foreign nationals with valid visas over-stay, they can be expatriated?

SHRI M.M. JACOB: Sir, this is covered by the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution. But this has been delegated to the State Governments concerned for detection and exportation of such foreign nationals.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the problem of over-stayal - illegal immigration - is serious in Rajasthan, extremely serious in West Bengal and perilous in the North-Eastern States of Assam and Tripura. In West Bengal, we have an example of actually illegal immigrants taking out a procession in the city of Calcutta and asking for the status. No where else in the world, can you possibly have such a situation. I would, therefore, like to know from the Government because in none of the replies has the Government come forward with any specific figure of how many foreign nationals are today in the country, instead all over the country, whether it is Rajasthan, West Bengal or Assam.

Secondly, the special provisions of travel between Bangladesh and India enable the Bangladeshi citizens to enter India and overstay and then to dissolve into the population of India. Would the Government of India consider a total revamp of the special arrangements of travel between India and Bangladesh?

SHRI M.M. JACOB: In Rajasthan, the figure available is: 2,710 people.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: It is a wrong figure.

SHRI M.M. JACOB: That is the figure available from the Rajasthan State Government. (*Interruptions*) In West Bengal, 5,87,848 is the figure submitted by West Bengal. (*Interruptions*)

Government is conscious of the fact that we have to send them out. Nowadays whenever people cross the border, the Border Security Force are pushing them out as far as possible. For others, who are staying there, we have got a different policy. For example, Bangladeshis, who came to India, are covered by a different policy. Pakistanis have a different policy. So, the State Governments can appropriately suggest what should be the method. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL:

would like to know from the Hon'ble Minister whether there are reports that infiltrators from Pakistan have crossed over to the Indian territory to perpetrate violence in Punjab.

SHRI M.M. JACOB: Government is aware that Pakistani infiltrators are sneaking into India across the border. Government is aware of it. We are taking appropriate steps by pushing them out. (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): May I add to this reply? In fact, some of the Pakistanis have come on valid passports and there are also who have come illegally. Without passports, there are a large number of people who have come over to India. So long as their intentions were very peaceful, we never objected to it. After all, we came from the same stock. (*Interruptions*) What is it that you are talking? (*Interruptions*) You must have the patience to understand the things. Without understanding, you are just crying '*hey-hey-hey*'. (*Interruptions*) You have to understand this. (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: As I was stating just now, so long as the intentions were very peaceful, we never took a very serious note of it. The State Governments were delegated all the powers. But now we feel that intentions are definitely not congenial for maintaining the cordial relationship between the countries. The State Governments also are most reluctant to take action about this matter. That is why, now the Central Government will be again requesting the State Governments to follow this as a kind of project where they should pursue this matter on a priority basis. Otherwise, we will have to think in terms of taking away these powers and exercising the powers by the Central Government itself. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Mr. Speaker Sir, I am surprised hearing this reply. I would think that in the matter of illegal migration or immigration into the country, intentions are totally irrelevant. But my question relates to what the Minister of State earlier replied. For the first time, the House has been informed that in Delhi, which is a Union Territory, there are about one lakh Bangladeshis who are illegally migrated here. What steps are being taken by the Government to identify them and to ensure that proper action is taken to see that these illegal immigrants are sent back?

SHRI M.M.JACOB: Sir, still the total figure regarding Bangladeshis in India is actually in a nebulous state because we have a very liberal attitude towards the Bangladeshis. Even the visa was covered under the rule, Special Agreement in 1972 regarding Bangladeshis. We are following the same pattern as in other places while we are detecting those people who are overstaying illegally. Our intention is to see that they are sent back. Our intention is to send them back.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Elections in Punjab

*147. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:
SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by the Government to create conditions in Punjab for a free and fair poll;